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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

DEC 30 1999

RALPH THOMAS BAKER ET AL.

CASE NO.: CP 8938
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SERIAL NO.: 09/214,101

GROUP ART UNIT: 1621

FILED: DECEMBER 29, 1998

EXAMINER: P. KILLOS

FOR: NICKEL CATALYZED ADDITION OF -NH-
CONTAINING COMPOUNDS TO VINYL AND
ARYL HALIDESAMENDMENT AND RESPONSEAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated
September 30, 1999. Please enter the below amendment.AMENDMENT

A¹

5. (Amended once) The process of Claim 1 wherein the catalyst [precursor] composition is a complex of Ni(1,5-cyclooctadiene)₂ and tricyclohexylphosphine.

[Add the following new claim 31.

A²

31. The process of Claim 1 wherein the catalyst complex is formed in situ.

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are in the application as filed and have been rejected for the reasons advanced below. Claim 5 has been amended and new claim 31 has been added.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0,385,835 or Cramer, J. of Org. Chem. Vol. 40, no. 16, pg. 2267-2273, or U.S. Patent No. 3,914,311. The Examiner states that all of the references teach the reaction

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